Gobblers Topple GW In Overtime

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Special to Daily Press) — Virginia Tech, led by guard Marshall Ashford, scored eight of the first 10 points in overtime Saturday night and held on for a 75-73 victory over George Washington.

After the score was tied 65-65 at the end of regulation play, Ashford put Virginia Tech ahead for good with a 15-foot jump shot with 3:58 left in the overtime.

The Gobblers saw what looked like a comfortable 65-61 lead with 29 seconds left in regulation vanish on the strength of clutch play by Colonial sophomore Tom Tate.

The Kentucky native converted two free throws at the 0:12 mark and banked in a 40-foot desperation shot at the buzzer to force the overtime.

"It was a tremendous win following our devastating loss to West Virginia at home Tuesday," said first-year Gobbler Coach Charlie Moir.

"We played hard and with great enthusiasm. We had good spirit on the bench in this one as well."

Phil Thieneman led the victors with 19 points, while West Point High product Duke Thorpe chipped in 14.

The second-half rebounding of pivotman Ernest Wansley played a major role in the victory. The 6-foot-10 senior only snared one carom in the first 20 minutes, but finished the game with 13.

The victors also shot well from the field after intermission, hitting at a 54.5 per cent accuracy rate.

Playmaker John Holloran paced the hosts with 29 points.

The Techmen got a big lift from sophomore guard Ron Edwards coming off the bench. The Bluefield native finished with a season-high 10 points.

The victors owned the game's biggest lead at eight points midway through the second half.